

Jesus took her by the hand and lifted her up

MARK 1:31

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

2340 State Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520 717-569-1632

Website: www.trinityeastpete.org E-Mail:secretary@trinityeastpete.org
The Rev. Dr. Christopher M. Rankin, Pastor
The Rev. Harry G. Royer, Pastor Emeritus
The Rev. Dr. Carolyne Call, Covenanted Minister of Mission
Mr. Michael Slechta, Director of Music/ Sounds of Trinity Choir Director
Mr. James Landis, Interim Organist
Mrs. Carmen Richards, Pianist
Mrs. Carol Kratz, Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Amy Hummer, Interim Preschool Director

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY 7:45 A.M. SERVICE

Today's Theme: In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So, in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service *(diakonia)*. Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayers.

Welcome all visitors! We welcome all who worship with us. May the joy of Christ's presence and the power of the Holy Spirit fill you with peace and hope! We are honored by your presence and trust that you will join us in the praise and worship of God. Please sign our guest book in the narthex. If you are interested in church membership, please give your name and telephone number to Pastor Rankin.

Welcome to the Eucharist! All who seek to follow Jesus and who seek the gifts Jesus offers us are invited to share in this sacrament of Holy Communion. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.

Prayer As You Enter: Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

CALL TO WORSHIP

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM AND INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

God calls us from our aimless living, from long nights of misery and hopelessness.

Early in the morning we seek God's face; in this place apart we listen for God's word.

God offers release from oppressive laws and sets us free to share the gospel.

In the hours of this day we would live good news, offering God's love to all who will receive it.

Come before God in awe and thanksgiving, grateful that God commissions us for service.

Day by day we pour out our life's breath, hoping, by God's grace, to save some.

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

CONFESSION OF SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

God has come to us in Christ, but we often live as if it made no difference.

Let us confess our sins before God in silent prayer.

(SEATED OR KNEELING)

SILENT CONFESSION OF SINS

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

ACT OF PRAISE

O God, open my lips.

And my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

COLLECT FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Let us pray the collect together.

Almighty God, we are amazed to see the work of your hands. You have granted us breath and given us hope in your steadfast love. The necessity is laid on us to share your blessing. Empower us now by your word to receive your healing touch and pass it on; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

THE WORD OF GOD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:21-31

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

THE PSALTER

Psalm 147:1-11,20c

Praise the LORD! How good it is to sing praises to our God, for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The LORD builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

The LORD lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre. He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

He gives to the animals their food and to the young ravens when they cry. His delight is not in the strength of the horse nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner,

But the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

He has not dealt thus with any other nation; they do not know his ordinances. Praise the LORD!

THE SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 9:16-23

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

THE HOLY GOSPEL

St. Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, may people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE GOSPEL OF OUR LORD

Praise be to You, O Christ.

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

SERMON "Lifted Up!" Pastor Rankin

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, light from light, true God from true God, begotten not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, and has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PEOPLE'S OFFERING

OFFERING DEDICATION

Thank you, God, for showing us a better way to live than we are able to devise for ourselves. Thank you for reaching out to win our hearts. Thank you for Jesus Christ, for the ministry that extended your love to the least and the lost, for the powerful presence that offered wholeness to those who were sick or brokenhearted, for the prayers that demonstrated how we, too, can be in communion with you. In gratitude, we dedicate this offering in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Mighty God, Wonderful Counselor, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. In ancient days, you created us in your image to be reflections of your glory. When we fell short and dimmed the brilliance of your light shining through us, you held our hands and walked with us out of the garden into all the corners of the earth. When we were afraid to look upon your glory, you came as a quiet traveler, as a burning bush, and as a pillar of light. You called us to be people of light, to walk no longer in darkness, and always, you light our way. Even when we walk in darkness, you shine your light and offer your grace, awaiting our return to you. In the fullness of time, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to reveal your glory and grace. And so, with your people on earth and all the angels in heaven, we praise your holy name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God, Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

(PLEASE BE SEATED)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE PRAYER OF OUR LORD

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE HOST & POURING OF THE CUP

As this grain was once scattered in the fields, and has come together in one bread, so we, with different needs and hopes, come together as one, for we share one bread.

The Bread of Life, broken for us.

The cup which we share is the cup of the New Covenant written in our hearts and witnessed by Jesus.

The Cup of Blessing, poured out for us and for the many.

(Those who wish to come forward will be invited by the pastor. The pastor will serve you the host, saying, "The Body of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" The assistant will present you with the cup, saying, "The Blood of Christ." You reply, "Amen!" Grape juice is in the chalice with the cross and wine is in the other chalice. If you need the pastor and assistant to come to you, please indicate that to someone near you or the pastor. If you do not wish to come forward, you are invited to use the packaged elements at the back of the sanctuary and commune in your pew. The pastor will offer a blessing everyone has communed. Children are invited to receive communion at the discretion of their parents/guardians. If a child wants to receive a blessing, they are asked to fold their hands.)

(PLEASE STAND IF YOU ARE ABLE)

POST COMMUNION PRAYERS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

As we celebrate Christ embodied in human form, we pray for God's blessing on the church, the world, and all of creation.

Everlasting God, you bring your healing power to the church. Give your church a spirit of unity and prayer, that we discern your way for us in the world. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

Creator of the ends of the earth, you make the grass grow and send rain for the soil. Bring your creation into harmony and balance. Give animals their food and provide healthy shelter for your people. Inspire us to honor the miraculous beauty of all you have made. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

God without equal, your steadfast love endures forever. Bring the leaders, elected officials, and peacekeepers of our towns and countries into understanding and unity. Guide them to serve with compassion and understanding. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who strengthens, you lift up with your hand any who are suffering. Heal those who are brokenhearted and strengthen the weak and all in need. God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

God who gives power to the faint, challenge us to share the faith stories of what God has done in our lives. Open us to receive the unique ways God is at work in your people, especially those whose perspectives challenge our own. God of grace, **receive our prayer**.

SILENT PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Arise, and go forth to shine for all the world to see.

We go to spread the good news of light and love, righteousness and justice.

May the blessing of the God of light rest upon you and fill you with light. Amen.



CATCH THE VISION & SHARE THE JOY



ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chancel Flowers are given by Scott & Jane Owens in honor of those thinking about spring.

The Worship Aids are given by Denise Pfeiffer in appreciation for the dedicated work by all the cardiologists and other medical professionals who help those with heart issues.

Ministering Today

Pastor Rev. Dr. Christopher Rankin

Lector Diane Rice

Money Counters Bud & Kathy McCarty, Jeff Hackenberger

Altar Guild Karen Olley, Beth Bossert

Building Trustee Mike WagnerKoinonia Cathy Hoshauer

Ministries Card Church Staff (Carol Kratz)

Called to Care Anne Rankin

Visitation Anita Rohrer

Attendance for Sun., Jan. 28 7:45–11 10:30–76 TOTAL – 87

Sunday School 18

Happy Birthday

Monday – Steven Archibald, Gerald Simmons, Robbin Stone Thursday – Hayden Knoll

This Week at Trinity Church

(Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2 p.m.)

Monday 7:00 PM – Choir/8:15 PM Bells Tuesday 7:00 PM – Preschool Board

Thursday 10:00 AM – Mercersburg Study Group

1:30 PM – Pinochle 6:30 PM – Cub Scouts

6:30 PM - Executive Committee-Choir Room

Saturday 7:00 PM – Alanon/8:00 PM - AA

Sunday 7:45 AM – Eucharist

9:00 AM -Sunday School

10:00 AM – Koinonia/Reception for James Landis

10:30 AM – Eucharist

Love Sunday, Meals with a Mission

PRAYERS FOR GOD'S HEALING PRESENCE

<u>MEMBERS</u>

Ken & Phyllis Zimmerman	Leo Daly	Hedwig Hunsicker
Michael McDonough	Jodi Keller	Rev. Ken Trauger
Don & Pat Miller	Nancy Patton	Dr. Janet Harriger
The Lehman family	Joann Peck	Harry Himelwright
Donna Wolf & Family	Mary Lou Shaab	Scott & Jane Owens
Stan & Pat Seachrist	Donna Zirkel	Carmen & Jerry Richards
Rev. Dave & Mid Gockley	Sam Minder III	Lainie Christensen
Rev. Bob & Nancy Musser	Hank Fox	Pastor Harry Royer
Betty Tyndall and family	Mary Witmer	Bob & Marlyn Wible
Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline	Erika Otthofer	Kathleen Sensenig Adams
Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman	Ron Becker	Danielle Huggins Holbein
Joann & Dawn Garvin	The Fischer Family	Dr. Blaine Connor
John Shelsky	Shelly Family	

FAMILY & FRIENDS

The family of Homer Zeigler (grandfather of Katie Weeber)

The family of Larry Gerlach (brother of Dolly Barr)

Annette Stork (niece of Pat Sensenig)

Logan Davis (husband of Hillary Bossert-Davis)

Brian & Liz Culp (son and daughter-in-law of Rev. Jere & Judy Chapman)

Jean Weglarz (neighbor of Rev. Bob & Judie Bistline)

Dan Doughton (Family friend of John and Sarah Paulukow)

Melby Bush (friend of Joan Sensenig)

Harvey & Dianne Sick (friends of Judy Chapman)

Aaron Flickinger (nephew of Pat & Joan Sensenig)

Deb Olley Heagy (daughter of Jack & Karen Olley)

The Haverstick Family (friends of Mike & Shelley Wagner)

Tom Riley (friend of Bud McCarty)

Rev. Loy Garber (former seminarian)

Roland Anderson and family (friends of John & Kayla Brennan)

Jaden Allen (nephew of Carol Kratz)

Gina McCarty (daughter-in-law of Bud & Kathy McCarty)

The Bruno family (friends of Blaine Connor)

Jessica Brown (niece of Mike & Shelley Wagner)

Janice Zimmerman (sister of Ken Zimmerman)

John Martin (brother-in-law of Dolly & John Barr)

Kelly Quick (friend of Rev. Dr. Rich & Lainie Christensen)

Marianne Gibble (friend of Trinity)

James Malone & family

Tom & Elaine Lichtenwalner (parents of Mike Lichtenwalner)

Janet Owens (sister-in-law of Scott & Jane Owens)

Chad Zirkel (son of Donna Zirkel)

Jordan Sensenig (grandson of Pat & Joan Sensenig),

Don Pfeifer (husband of Denise Pfeifer)

Jake & Jean Otthofer (parents of Dan Otthofer)

The Martin family

Robert Richards (brother of Jerry Richards)

Ronald Himelwright (grandson of Brenda & Harry Himelwright)

Barry Richards (son of Jerry & Carmen Richards)

Tyler Miller (grandson of Iris DeMaio)

Joan Kalbach (mother of Dr. Cathy Hoshauer)

Jim & Kathy Long (friends of Jerry & Carmen Richards)

John Siebern (Bob Siever's brother-in-law)

Jo Jo Richards & family (Carmen & Jerry's granddaughter-in-law)

THE FEBRUARY PARISH POST is available in the information racks on both floors of the church building.

DEVOTIONALS: The January-March edition of These Days are available on the table across from the church office or on the lower level by the portico entrance.

Come enjoy choirs, instrumentalists and other musical groups representing various UCC congregations in the Lancaster Association for our first ever



Febraary 4th, 2-4pm

at Church of the Apostles, Lancaster

At 2pm, come enjoy snacks and fellowship time while our performers set up and warm up.

The program will begin at 2:30pm.

This event is free of charge and open to the public.

Come celebrate the gift of music in our congregations!

SPEAK TO DIANE RICE, A MEMBER OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE, FOR MORE INFORMATION!!!



2023 ANNUAL REPORTS are available on both floors of the building!

RECEPTION FOR INTERIM ORGANIST: James Landis will be completing his tenure as our interim organist on February 11. There will be a special koinonia next Sunday as we thank James for his ministry. We might see James again when we need a supply organist. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Robert Adams will begin as our interim organist through the Lenten season. Robert, a retired organist and music professor, recently moved to the Traditions of East Petersburg and worshipped with us this past summer.

2024 CHANCEL FLOWERS AND WORSHIP AID SPONSORS: Upcoming dates for worship aids are: February 25 & March 3. Upcoming dates for Chancel Flowers are March 3 17, 24 & 31. The price for flowers is \$60. The price for worship aids is \$26. Look for the charts on the bulletin board in the narthex or call Carol in the church office.

THE MEN OF TRINITY (M.O.T.) BREAKFAST: The men will be meeting in February 17 at 8:00 AM at Family Fare Restaurant. There is a sign-up sheet across from the church office.

PRAYER SHAWL The Prayer Shawl will meet Tuesday, February 20th from 1:00-3:00 PM. They will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month! Come and bring a friend. Hope to see many of you there! Contact Betty Tyndall for more information.

KOINONIA/SUNDAYMORNING FELLOWSHIP: We have resumed koinonia (community fellowship) every Sunday at 10 a.m. in Isenberg Hall. Volunteers are asked to provide light refreshments and drinks/coffee. The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen coordinator. If you have any questions, contact Paula Dennes. Coffee is always available between 7:45 service and Sunday School.

ASH WEDNESDAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We are in need of greeters for our 2 p.m. service and greeters/ushers for our 7 p.m. If you are able to help, please contact Pastor Chris or Carol Kratz.

GRIEF GROUPS: Prior to the pandemic, Pastor Chris was hoping to form some small groups to look at issues of grief. Please contact him or Carol Kratz if you are interested in participating in one of the groups!

CALLED TO CARE MINISTRY: The Evangelism Committee is in need of more volunteers to provide meals for our members! If you are interested, speak with Pastor Chris!



TRINITY'S MEALS WITH A MISSION February 11, 2024

Trinity will again be preparing/assembling meals for some of our members on Sunday, February 11. We will meet after the second service to prepare the meals - it should take about an hour.

If you are able to help out with the assembly or delivery of the meal, please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex! Hands of all sizes are welcome to help.

If you have questions, contact Deb Lichtenwalner-717-203-9506 or deblich@comcast.net.

LOVE SUNDAY/SOUPER BOWL OF CARING: Trinity will celebrate "Love Sunday" and the "Souper Bowl of Caring" on February 11, 2024. We will collect canned goods and money for the Hempfield Power Packs. The Peanut Butter (they are paying nearly \$2 a jar through the Central PA Food Bank)

Soup – Tomato, Chicken Noodle, Cream of Chicken or Cream of Mushroom Macaroni and Cheese

Pasta (1lb – elbow, spaghetti, penne, etc) Tuna



Here is a list of supplies needed by our Preschool. Please consider purchasing an item and placing it in the basket in the Narthex.

> Small dry erase markers Beginners pencils

Foil

Cotton balls

Coffee filters-large & small

Plain white muffin cups-small

Glue bottles with brushes

Scissor scoops

Plastic spoons and forks

Hot glue sticks

Thank you!

LIFE LINE SCREENING, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at Trinity United Church of Christ on Saturday, March 2, 2024. A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered: Carotid Artery Screening (Plaque), Peripheral Arterial Disease Screening Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA), Atrial Fibrillation.

These 4 vital screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. Register by calling toll free 1-844-591-7160, text the word "circle" to 216-279-1607 or online at https://llsa.social/

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;
²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.
²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these?
He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name;

because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

27Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"?
28Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
29He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
30Even youths will faint and be weary,

and the young will fall exhausted;

31 but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength,

they shall mount up with wings like eagles

they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.